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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/772,262	02/06/2004	Hiroki Tamai	248571US6	4438
22850	7590	01/23/2007	EXAMINER	
OBLON, SPIVAK, MCCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.			AMADIZ, RODNEY	
1940 DUKE STREET			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			2629	
SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE		MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE	
3 MONTHS		01/23/2007	PAPER	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/772,262	TAMAI ET AL.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Rodney Amadiz	2629	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 February 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 06 February 2004 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ . 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1, 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fleck et al. (U.S. Patent 6,977,811—herein referred to as “Fleck”) in view of Goodman et al. (U.S. Patent 6,100,875—herein referred to as “Goodman”).

As to **Claim 1**, Fleck teaches an information processing apparatus comprising: a display (***Fig. 1, Reference Number 108***); a pointing device for moving a pointer appearing on the display in a desired direction (***Fleck—Fig. 3, Reference Number 300 and Col. 4, lines 42-45 and 50***); and a plurality of cursor keys (***Fig. 3, Reference Numbers 302, 304, 306 and 308***), the cursor keys being arranged near the pointing device (***Fig. 3—note the position of cursor keys relative to the pointing device and Col. 3, lines 10-28***).

Fleck, however, fails to teach the cursor keys moving a cursor appearing on the display in predetermined directions. Examiner cites Goodman to teach cursor keys moving a cursor appearing on the display in predetermined directions (*Fig. 1a, Reference Numbers 110, 112, 114 and 116 and Col. 3, lines 45-67*). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the functions of cursor keys (i.e. moving a cursor on a display screen) as taught by Goodman in the information processing apparatus taught by Fleck in order to perform mouse-like operations without the necessity of a flat, steady surface (*Goodman—Col. 1, lines 56-62*).

As to Claim 2, Fleck, as modified by Goodman, teaches the cursor keys arranged along the periphery of the pointing device such that the pointing device is at the center of the cursor keys (*Fig. 3—note the position of cursor keys relative to the pointing device and Col. 3, lines 10-28*).

As to Claim 4, Fleck teaches a confirmation button for confirming a selected or input item, the confirmation button being positioned near the pointing device or the cursor keys (Fig. 3, “Return” key—note position of key relative to the cursor keys).

4. Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fleck and Goodman as applied to claims 1, 2 and 4 above, and further in view of Boehme et al. (U.S. Patent 6,512,670—herein referred to as “Boehme”).

As to Claim 3, Fleck, as modified by Goodman, teaches a display unit having a display housing on which the display is provided (*Fig. 1, Reference Number 108 and*

note the housing it is in); a main unit provided with a keyboard having a plurality of operation keys (Figs. 1 and 3); and a hinge unit which connects the display unit and the main unit such that the display unit can pivot to open and close the keyboard (Fig. 1, note Hinge Unit between the display unit and the main unit), wherein the pointing device and the cursor keys are positioned near one end of the information processing apparatus along the axis of the hinge in an area between the display unit and the keyboard (Figs. 1 and 3—note position of pointing device 300 and cursor keys 302-308 along the axis of the hinge and between the display unit and the keyboard).

Fleck, as modified by Goodman, however, fails to teach the hinge unit including a hinge barrel and hinge pins disposed in the hinge barrel. Examiner cites Boehme et al. to teach an information processing apparatus having a hinge unit including a hinge barrel and hinge pins disposed in the hinge barrel (*Figs. 5-6 and Col. 4, lines 4-35*). At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the use of a hinge unit as taught by Boehme et al. in the information processing apparatus taught by Fleck in order to be able to detach the display from the main unit (*Boehme et al.—Col. 4, lines 4-35*).

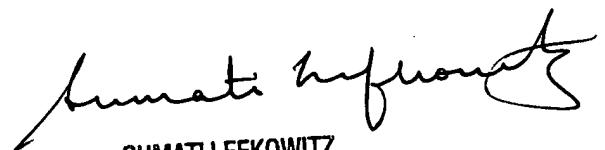
Inquiries

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rodney Amadiz whose telephone number is (571) 272-7762. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sumati Lefkowitz can be reached on (571) 272-3638. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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